



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 29, 2025

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Assessment, School Improvement, and Systems Support

SUBJECT: Section 35m Committee for Literacy Achievement/High-Quality Literacy
Materials Grant Announcement

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is announcing the availability of the Section 35m fiscal year 2025 grant that supports Goal 2 of [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#), to improve early literacy achievement. The application opens in NexSys on June 2, 2025, and will remain open until 5 p.m. on July 11, 2025.

[Section 35m](#) provides \$87 million to MDE to create a Committee for Literacy Achievement (CLA) and to allocate funding based on a rankings list of literacy tools and strategies as recommended by the CLA, with the goal of increasing student academic outcomes in the area of literacy. The department will use the rankings list as the basis for how funding is allocated to districts and intermediate districts. The Committee for Literacy Achievement has critically evaluated literacy tools and strategies within three areas: literacy materials and series, tools and services, and professional development. These evaluations resulted in three rankings lists: Tier 1 Early Literacy Materials and Series, Early Literacy Intervention Materials and Series, and Professional Development. Districts may apply for funding for one literacy item from one of the rankings lists.

The rankings lists will be published on the Section 35m [Committee for Literacy Achievement / HQ Literacy Materials Grant webpage](#) on June 2, 2025. The allocation of funds will include both a base allocation and a grades Pre-K through 12 per-pupil allocation based on the fall 2024 certified count. The grant award amount will be determined after the application period closes and the formula is calculated based on the number of local education agencies that apply and the number of pupils enrolled in those districts. Additional information can be found in the Section 35m FAQ document, and the pre-recorded 35m webinar found on the [Committee for Literacy Achievement/HQ Literacy Materials Grant webpage](#).

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If you have questions, please email MDE-EarlyLiteracy@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments